(b) if so, the total number of patients whose names were registered in the waiting list at the time?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) The Panchakarma Ward in the Hospital of Indigenous Medicine has not been abolished, but the name of the ward has been changed into Ayurveda Ward II.

" (b) The question does not arise."

Harijan students in the Veterinary College of Madras.

* 1441 Q.—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) the number of students studying in the Veterinary College, Madras; and

(b) the number of Harijans among them?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) & (b) During 1953-54, 314 students were studying in the Madras Veterinary College for the B.V.Sc. course of which one was a Harijan, and 41 students were studying for the Veterinary and Livestock Inspector's course of which none was a Harijan."

Assignment of darkhast lands to Harijans in Kasaragod taluk.

* 1442 Q.—SRI M. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the number of darkhast petitions received by Government from the Harijans of Kasaragod taluk since 1948 up to 31st December 1953;

(b) in how many cases assignments have been made so far; and

(c) in how many cases petitions have been rejected?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—

" (a) 1,154.

" (b) 168.

" (c) 671."

Closure of handloom co-operative societies in 1953.

* 1443 Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state how many handloom co-operative societies were closed due to loss in the year 1953?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Only one Handloom Weavers' Society was closed in 1953 due to loss. Six societies were closed due to reasons other than loss in transactions."